

THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1873.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 9th June, 1873.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

THE *Majma-ul-Bahrain*, of the 22nd May, suggests the need of a telegraph office at Jugraon, in the Loodhiana district. Jugraon is a commercial mart in Loodhiana, and contains many banking firms, and a telegraph office is, therefore, a great desideratum in that town. The branch telegraph line from Loodhiana to Ferozepore passes through Jugraon, and there would, therefore, be no difficulty. The cost of maintenance of the office would be more than repaid by the income which it would bring in.

The *Lauh-i-Mahfúz*, of the 23rd May, in its local news columns, invites attention to the prevalence of wolves in the city (Moradabad) and its environs, and calls upon Government to adopt measures for their destruction.

Fires are also said to be very common. A few days ago a large number of houses in Mohullah Peer Ghaib were burnt, in consequence of which the inhabitants, who could barely earn enough to support them, have been reduced to extreme distress. A still more disastrous fire took place in Paetee, a village situated on the Amroha road, at a distance of seven kos from the city of Moradabad, which destroyed about 450 houses, together with all the grain-stores and other property

in them. The owners are entirely ruined and in a state of extreme helplessness.

The *Koh-i-Núr*, of the 24th May, invites attention to the case of Syud Ibraheem, a respectable person and a well-known merchant. The Syud purchased Rs. 4,000 worth of currency notes at Umballa, which were stolen by some one at Umritsur. The thief was arrested, but, through the restrictions imposed by the English law, procured his release.

What particularly strikes the editor as surprising in the case is the fact of the person suspected to be guilty of the theft having been required to furnish security of only Rs. 100, the consequence of which was that by the time the crime would have been fully proved against him he had made his escape from Umritsur. The editor also thinks it remarkable that the name of the purchaser of a currency note should be entered in the office register and yet its value should be paid to a person of a different name. The Syud possesses several official communications sent to him from different places, in order to inform him that the currency notes stolen from him were being sold at the Government treasury, and he spent a considerable amount of money in the issue and circulation of notices for the arrest of the thief ; but, notwithstanding this, the offender has not been seized.

The editor considers Government should make good the Syud's loss, or, if the law prevents it from doing so, should take effective steps for the arrest of the thief.

The *Mayo Memorial Gazette*, of the 25th May, in its local news column, calls upon the authorities of Delhi to order the closing of all the gymnasiums in that city, which are said to be a prolific source of vice and crime. Theft, gambling, criminal assaults, &c., all owe their origin to these gymnasiums.

The *Karnamah*, of the 26th May, bewails the misfortunes which have befallen the city of Lucknow in repeated succession during past years. At one time it was unrivalled by any

other city in India in the grandeur and magnificence of its royal edifices, bazaars, &c., and the amount of its population, when a sudden change was brought about. The Government of Oudh passed from the hands of the Native sovereigns into those of the English Government. This was followed by the ruin and desolation of the greater part of the city, which went on to such an extent that out of the 100,000 houses which, according to the census taken at the commencement of the British rule the city contained, more than half the number were destroyed after a year, and the once thickly-peopled city of palaces was reduced to a desert plain. The princes and grandees, who could with difficulty live in palaces and mansions, had to pass their days in huts surrounded by *kutchas* compounds, while the miseries of the poor knew no end. In the face of all these misfortunes, it was some consolation to the unfortunate inhabitants to find that the famous royal edifices, which were built at an expense of hundreds of thousands of rupees, had survived destruction, and would serve as monuments of the Native rule. But, unfortunately, even this hope has been frustrated. For a time the authorities took care of the buildings, and lived in them with comfort; but afterwards, feeling it burdensome to bear the expense of repair, they sold *Badshah Bagh* with the mansion belonging to it to the Maharajah of Kuppeorthulla, and *Motee Muhall* to the Maharajah of Bulrampore; put some of the edifices to auction sale, and pulled down others, selling their materials. Of the remaining buildings, the houses in the *Kaiser Bagh* were either destroyed or given over to the talookdars on the promise of their keeping them in good repair, while other edifices were retained as Government property, though some changes were made in their form and appearance. This year one of these latter, viz., *Kaiser Pusund*, which is said to have been erected at a cost of Rs. 2,00,000, is to be sold for some Rs. 40,000 or Rs. 50,000.

The editor considers this very unfortunate, and is surprised to find that, while in Agra, Delhi, Lahore, and other

cities, large sums of money are spent by Government in the repair of antique royal edifices, in Lucknow the authorities should study to efface all the royal monuments of antiquity.

The *Oudh Akhbar*, of the 27th May, in a communicated article, draws attention to the harm done by quack doctors, and especially so by men who set up as oculists; and calls upon Government to take the necessary steps for putting a stop to the evil.

In its local news column, the same paper notices a serious case of dacoitee, the particulars being these:—On the 23rd May, Shew Deen, contractor of the Oonao Grand Trunk Road, who was coming back from that place to Lucknow in an *ekka* accompanied by four or five attendants, was attacked on the Chillawan road by a gang of 30 or 40 dacoits, who belaboured the whole party with *lathies* till they became senseless, and seized the whole of the money in their possession, with which they made off. Two or three carts full of sugar, which happened to pass that way at the same time, were also plundered by the robbers.

The editor remarks that cases of this kind are of frequent occurrence on the Oonao road, and calls upon the authorities to adopt measures for preventing their recurrence.

The *Nasim-i-Jounpore*, of the same date, in its local news columns, complains of the inconvenience suffered by the people in consequence of the streets of the city being swept late in the morning, and invites the attention of the municipal committee to the matter.

The *Rifáh-i-Am*, of the same date, points out the need of a branch of the Peshawar Railway line being conducted from Wazeerabad to Sealkote. Besides possessing the advantage of a salubrious climate and good situation, Sealkote is a place of trade, and is situated only at a short distance from the territory of Jummoo and Cashmere. Moreover, it is all but probable that on the proposal being started by Government seve-

ral of the Native chiefs, especially the Maharajah of Cashmere, would willingly purchase a large number of shares, and the editor, therefore, commends the suggestion to the favourable consideration of Government.

The *Benares Akhbár*, of the 29th May, remarks on the desirability of enlisting good and well-behaved men in the police. At present the police consists chiefly of men who are bold enough in troubling Native gentlemen, but who shrink from *budmashes*. What can be more strange than that in Benares the latter should be permitted to rove at large in the streets with *lathies* in their hands, even though a warrant should have been issued for their apprehension ; while the latter should be interfered with even if in their walks they happen to have a walking stick in their hands for their convenience ?

The *Akhbár-i-Anjumán-i-Punjab*, of the 30th May, in giving an account of the annual fair called *Bhudr Kalee* Fair, which was recently held at Mouza Niyaz Beg, seven miles from the city of Lahore, draws attention to the serious trouble and inconvenience suffered by the persons who attended it in consequence of the disgraceful state of the public road leading to the place of the fair. This has been a crying complaint for several years past, and detracts greatly from the beauty of one of the most famous fairs in the Punjab, and it is high time that the attention of the authorities should be directed to it. In the writer's opinion, it would be advisable for Government to construct a *pucka* road from Lahore to the place of the fair, and provide wells and plant trees on it for the convenience of persons visiting the fair, as well as of the common people who carry on communication between Lahore and the mouzah and its surrounding villages.

The same paper prefers complaints as to the bad state of the Rawulpindee and Murree road, and points out the need of repairing it. Early in April the Public Works Department had caused the road to be spread over and levelled with earth, the result being that it has become a mass of mud. In con-

sequence of this both passengers and bullock-train carts experience great difficulty in passing on it.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the same date, in a communicated article, takes exception to the postal rule according to which covers cannot be registered at post-offices on Sundays. When letters, &c., are received and distributed, and other duties connected with the post-office are discharged on Sundays as on other days, the writer sees no reason why covers should not be registered on that day.

He also points out the need of publishing, by means of newspapers and printed notices in the vernaculars, such changes or alterations as may be made in the postal rules from time to time. In the absence of such publication the people have to suffer much unnecessary inconvenience and loss.

The *Shola-i-Túr*, of the 31st May, in referring to the terrible fire which recently took place in Collectorgunj (Cawnpore), takes occasion to invite the attention of the municipal committee of the city to the dangerous practice of allowing shops for the sale of firewood to remain in the interior of the city.

The *Panjab-i-Akhbar*, of the same date, has a communicated article on the extreme severity of the recent settlement in the Meerut District. Unlike all other districts, gardens and burial-grounds have been brought under assessment, and what is worse, an additional cess of 17 per cent., including the lumberdar's dues, has been levied on maâfees, which are now only nominally rent-free. An assessment at the rate of Rs. 20, Rs. 18, Rs. 16, and Rs. 12 per beegah, according to the quality of the maâfee, is collected from the cultivators. In other words, out of Rs. 100, Rs. 58 have to be paid as Government and lumberdaree dues, the remaining Rs. 42 being all that is left to the zemindar. This was actually the case in the Fuslee year 1279-80, the result being that a large number of the cultivators tendered their resignations, while most of the maâfeedars had to sell their household property to meet the

Government demand. It is a fact that some of the rent-free lands are such that the revenue from them scarcely covers the Government *jumma*, and the writer feels no hesitation in asserting that, if the present heavy assessment continues, most of the lands will be sold or mortgaged, if not altogether quitted by the holders.

Again, on lands belonging to bungalows, a uniform rent at the rate of Rs. 32 per acre will be collected from the cultivators, in consequence of which many of the latter are sending in their resignations.

In brief, the *jumma* levied on *maâfees* under the new settlement exceeds even that fixed on *khalisa* lands.

The writer goes on to say that at the time of the Lieutenant-Governor's recent visit to Meerut some persons preferred complaints of the grievance before him, while others sent up petitions to Allahabad; and that all these were forwarded to the Collector of the district, who nominated a Deputy Collector for the purpose of investigation. This official is said to have done nothing beyond taking a survey of the lands, and the writer doubts if any good results will follow.

He adds that the present Collector of the district has passed some questionable orders, which have served to aggravate the distress brought on the people by the new settlement. Among these are mentioned the following :—

(a) No cultivator should spread manure over his fields lying within the limits of the municipality. Those in whose fields it was found were fined Rs. 150.

(b) No cultivator should sow *churee*, kitchen vegetables, barley, sugar-cane, *bajra*, millet, or maize within municipal limits, because in fields where such things grow jackals usually gather at night.

The writer asks how, if the *khurreef* harvest is not to be sown, the cultivators will be able to pay the Government revenue.

(c) Since the beginning of the Fuslee year 1281 no article of whatever kind should be sown in the cultivated lands situated in the compounds of bungalows, and all sugar-cane now growing in them should be uprooted.

On the cultivators preferring complaints against this order, the tehseeldar was ordered to make inquiries, and report what extent of land was occupied by sugar-cane plantations, and the estimated cost of the latter. The official reported in reply that sugar-cane plantations were very extensive, and that their destruction would cause a loss amounting to Rs. 10,000. He added that, according to the cultivators, the cost of the plantations was Rs. 150 per beegah, in addition to Rs. 20 per beegah for rent. On this orders were issued to uproot the plantations, and pay the owners an indemnity at the rate of Rs. 15 per beegah. As might be expected, the cultivators are very much dissatisfied.

In conclusion, the writer notices the oppressions said to be practised on the inhabitants of the Meerut Cantonment by the colonel in charge of the 7th European regiment. He freely enters their houses without giving previous notice to inspect the privies in them, and on finding any of them dirty, despatches the owner to the magistrate, who, without any inquiry or regard to his means, inflicts a very heavy fine on him. The colonel, moreover, causes any house which may be out of repair to be pulled down, and pays no attention to applications asking permission to make repairs.

The *Koh-i-Núr*, of the same date, takes exception to Section 2 of G. G. O., Financial Department, No. 1445, dated 28th February last, according to which the lowest rate of postage on books is two annas. It is remarked that even the old rate of one anna for a packet not exceeding ten tolahs in weight was too high, and had all along been a subject of complaint, which was repeatedly noticed in newspapers; and that, therefore, the doubling of it is all the more open to objection. The price of a large number of books—such as almanacs, journals,

&c.—is often one or two annas per copy, so that in transmitting them by post a postage equal to or half of the price had to be paid under the old rule, which was felt very hard, and was a great obstacle in the way of the development of learning. The new rule will produce a worse effect, and under it the cause of education will materially suffer.

The attention of Government is invited to this, and it is suggested that the rate of postage on books should be reduced to half an anna on packets not exceeding 10 tolahs in weight, one anna on packets not exceeding 20 tolahs, and so on. By so doing, not only will the taste for books greatly increase among the people, but the income of the Postal Department will eventually rise.

A correspondent of the same paper remarks on the desirability of attending to the repairs of the Lahore Fort, and especially the side of it towards the Circular road, formerly adorned with paintings, representing battle scenes, &c., in the time of the Emperor Akbar, but which have been defaced by time.

Another correspondent of the same paper states that the managers of the Jami Musjid, Delhi, have begun levying a tax, varying from one to four annas, from visitors. The writer considers this highly improper.

The same paper gathers from the local newspapers that the idols of *Shiva* have been stolen from the Hindoo temples in Chundosee and Moradabad.

The *Amir-ul-Akhbar*, of the 1st June, learns from a correspondent that the Jumna Canal surrounding the town of Hissar, which passes by the name of *Chhaonee Walee Nahr*, is to be closed, in consequence of the doctor having pronounced it to be injurious on sanitary considerations. The writer condemns the measure, (1) because of the canal adding to the beauty of the town; (2) on account of its great usefulness for irrigation purposes, and (3) because of the loss which Government will suffer in the event of its being closed.

The *Samay Vinod*, of the same date, publishes an essay on the sanitation of cities, read by Agha Mahomed Hoosein at a recent meeting of the Nynsee Tal Institute. The upshot is that one of the principal defects in the sanitation of cities such as Allahabad Cawnpore, Allygurh is the order prohibiting the dirty water of houses being allowed to run out on the streets. This water remains shut up in the reservoirs outside each house, and both for this reason and on account of its being scattered over the lanes at a time when the sun is high in order that it may soon dry up, gives rise to noxious vapours, which corrupt the air and tend to produce diseases.

This state of things has come to the writer's personal knowledge, and he thinks that the attention of the authorities ought to be drawn to it.

The same paper states, on the authority of a correspondent, that a disastrous conflagration recently took place in the town of Sherkote (Bijnour), which, besides destroying a large number of houses and an immense amount of property, burnt many men. Of these twenty died, while several were lying in a precarious state at the time of the correspondent's writing.

Another correspondent of the same paper mentions the prevalence of sickness in the environs of Lohaghat (Almorah). Ague and small-pox are said to be prevalent in the suburbs of Mouzah Joularee, and cholera in several of the villages belonging to Puttee Regrooban. It is added that the inhabitants of several places in Pergunnah Pithouragurh have quitted their homes and fled to the jungle through fear of sickness. The price of food grains is also said to be dearer than in the past years.

The *Jubbulpore Samachar*, of the 2nd June, in a long article, dwells on the influence upon society of sturdy beggars, who have a strong antipathy to labour and honest callings, and prefer idleness and vagrancy to the active pursuits of life. The writer particularly refers to the different classes

of mendicants who extort alms from the public, employing threats and undergoing peculiar kinds of sufferings in order to show what a nuisance they are to the people at large; and he points out the need of suppressing street-beggary by law. If the Penal Code and the Police and Municipal Acts are not sufficient authority, the measure he would urge would be that a special Act be devised, making it penal for able-bodied beggars to beg in the streets. As to beggars who really deserve pity and support at the public expense, he would suggest that poor-houses be established in connection with municipalities, in which only those persons should be admitted who should be certified by the Civil Surgeon or other medical officer of Government to be incapable of performing active labour.

Under the heading "Hoshungabad," the same paper mentions the following incidents:—

(a). A ferry-boat carrying ten or twelve persons from Bhagnere Ghat across the Nerbudda sank in the river, and all in it perished.

(b). A woman of Kuveree, a village situated on the border of Hoshungabad and Baitool, was carried away by a tiger. On search being made, the beast was found dead at a short distance from the village with the bones of the woman lying near it. Similar cases lately happened in Raisulpore and Raipore, in the former of which places a Koormee woman, aged 50, was carried away by a tiger while asleep in the courtyard of her house; while in the latter one man was killed and another wounded.

The *Oudh Akhbar*, of the 3rd June, in its local news column draws attention to the oppressions practised on the inhabitants of Mohullah Futteh Gunj in Ameenabad (Lucknow) by a person bearing brands of the time of the late sovereigns to mark him as a notorious thief. He keeps a body of *budmashes* in his retinue, who procure things for him from whomsoever they like on credit without paying for them.

People say that this has been permitted by Government, which the editor disbelieves.

The *Nasim-i-Jounpore*, of the same date, in its column of local news, states that a few days ago no person in the city was allowed to rebuild his house situated within municipal limits without obtaining permission of the secretary of the municipal committee beforehand by means of an application. This procedure of course put the people to great trouble, but fortunately it is no longer in force.

The editor wonders that the course should have been sanctioned by the municipal committee, seeing that, according to the municipal rules, such restrictions are authorized only in case of houses situated at the road-side, and the repair of which is likely to cause inconvenience to passengers ; and he remarks that, in order to avoid misunderstanding and afford the people an opportunity of criticizing its measures, the committee ought to publish its proceedings.

The *Rohilkhund Akhbár*, of the 4th June, learns from a correspondent at Roorkee that fires recently broke out in Mohullah Amar Talab three times on different dates, which destroyed a number of houses and burnt one man. The incendiary, who was a woman, has been seized. On being questioned, she said she was childless, and had been told by a saint that if she set fire to men's houses seven times, a son would be born to her.

The *Roznamcha*, of the 5th June, in its correspondence columns, notices a peculiar kind of fraud practised by a stranger in the city of Cawnpore. He went to the shop of a well-known mahajun, asked for Rs. 1,200 worth of gold-mohurs, and after they had been shown him and the bargain settled, put them in a purse, which he tied round his waist. This done, he asked the mahajun to send his man with him to the *serai* for the money. The mahajun said he had no man at the time, and demanded payment on the spot, on which the stranger untied a purse from his waist, giving the mahajun

to understand that it was the identical purse in which the gold-mohurs had been placed, and asked the latter to keep it locked up in a box, delivering the key to him, till he brought the money. This being done, the stranger went away and did not return; the mahajun on opening the box next morning found that the purse contained double pice instead of the goldmohurs.

A correspondent of the *Benares Akhbár*, of the same date, writing from Allahabad, states that on account of the force of the current at the junction of the Ganges and the Jumna, many of the men who bathe there are carried away by the stream. To guard against such mishaps a boat was kept in the river by Government, into which any person who was found to be in danger was immediately taken, but this arrangement has now been discontinued.

The writer is much surprised at this, and regrets that, while Government wastes large sums of money in useless projects, it should grudge a trifling amount for ensuring the safety of the lives of a large number of its subjects.

The correspondent also invites attention to the pitiable state of the clerks of the Frontier Travelling Post-office. They incur much trouble and expense in travelling, and undergo very hard labour, having to perform their duty standing and exposed to the severities of the weather in the railway carriage night and day, and yet for all this get small salaries. To complete their misfortune, if in a packet containing 800 or 1,000 letters one or two should be found mis-sent or missorted, they are fined two annas per letter for the former, and one anna for the latter by the examiners, who draw high salaries and have nothing to do except to remain in office the whole day. In this way each examiner sometimes collects Rs. 2 or 3 in one day in fines, in addition to the fixed monthly pay allowed him by Government.

It may be imagined how hard all this is felt by the clerks, and the writer thinks that the attention of the Director-

General should be drawn to the matter, and proper orders should be issued by him.

The *Roznámcha*, of the 6th June, dwells on the desirability of restoring the system obtaining in India in the time of Mahomedan rulers under which a Qazee was appointed in each city and town, and a Head Qazee in sudder stations for solemnizing marriages and deciding political, religious, and social disputes among Mussalmans. It is observed that, although the English translations of the Mahomedan law, by affording facilities to English judges in deciding suits arising among Mussalmans according to the Mahomedan law, have to some extent dispensed with the need of Qazees, there are yet a great variety of suits, especially those relating to right to inheritance and property, which, on account of being based on lineage and peculiar marriage rules and formalities, can only be fitly and justly decided by Qazees.

For these reasons, the editor is of opinion that men who may be pious, upright, and well-versed in the Mahomedan law should be elected by Government both from amongst the Sheeas and Sunnees, and appointed for solemnizing marriages and settling all matters connected with divorce, &c., according to the peculiar forms and observances enjoined for the two sects in the Mahomedan religion. The Qazees thus appointed should be provided with registers signed by the district authorities, and rules should be laid down for their guidance.

The attention of Government is invited to the suggestion.

The *Oudh Akhbár*, of the same date, has been informed that in Golagunj, a mohullah in Lucknow, there live a set of men who bear a bad character and are feared by all the inhabitants of the mohullah. These men follow no profession, and have no honest sources of livelihood. The editor thinks they ought to be called upon to furnish securities for good

behaviour under the provisions of Act X., after which the party should be dispersed.

In its correspondence columns the same paper repeats complaints of the prevalence of thefts at Ghazeeabad. Several daring cases are said to have happened in a single night. In one of these thieves entered the house of a Bengalee baboo, and on his being awakened by the noise, pelted him with bricks, and wounded his servant. The baboo set up a hue and cry, on which a few peons of the Punjab Railway immediately came to the spot, by which time, however, the thieves had fled, but no constable or other employé of the district police came up to help. In another case, the thieves stripped a constable's house of almost everything in it; and in a third, which happened in the cantonment, they carried away blankets, quilts, &c., from the barracks of European soldiers.

The writer remarks that when such daring cases happen in cities, it may be imagined what fate must befall passengers on roads; and he strongly censures the police at Ghazeeabad for their sheer negligence and inattention to their duty.

Another correspondent of the same paper points out the need of building two more latrines in connection with the *pucka serai* in Barabankee. There are at present only two latrines in the *serai*, which are by no means sufficient for the wants of the large number of passengers who put up in it. The writer has been an eye-witness of the serious inconvenience suffered by the latter for want of a sufficient number of latrines in the *serai*, and he hopes that the attention of the Deputy Commissioner of the district will be invited to the necessity of supplying the deficiency.

The *Nur-ul Anwar*, of the 7th June, in its local news column, notices a serious case of robbery, the particulars being these:—At 6 A.M. on 3rd June, two Hindoostanee ladies of a respectable family, together with a maid-servant, were travelling in a *bailee* under the escort of two men from Cawnpore to Kulyanpore. After the carriage had proceeded some way

from Chowkee Imilya, Station Maharajgunj, a band of robbers of the mouzah surrounded it at 8 o'clock at night, belabouring and wounding with *lathies* the attendants, one chowkeedar, and two or three other assistants, two of whom had their heads broken. They then seized the infant lad, two years old, from the arms of the maid-servant, and pressed its throat, threatening to kill it unless the ladies delivered the whole of the property in their possession to them. The poor women instantly threw down all their ornaments and clothes from the carriage, with which the thieves ran away, after restoring the child. The carriage, together with the ladies and the wounded attendants, remained at the chowkee abovenamed till next morning, when, on a report being made, the chief and the Inspector of Police came to the spot, and after making inquiries and taking down a list of the stolen property, allowed the party to depart. A search is being made after the robbers, but no trace has hitherto been discovered.

POLITICAL (FOREIGN.)

The *Málwah Akhbár*, of the 23rd May, gives credit to the Maharajah of Indore for having remitted the revenue of several *ilagas* in his territory. Out of the *jumma* of a single mehal (the Indore mehal) Rs. 15,000 have been remitted.

Several petty fires, which recently happened in Indore, are also noticed.

The same paper points out the need of metalling and providing with bridges the road leading to Sir T. Madhav Rao's court. Unless this is done the road will be inundated with water in the rainy season, and both the *umlah* and the people will be put to great inconvenience.

The *Rajpútana Social Science Congress Gazette*, of the same date, states that a proposal has been started by the Government of Jeypore for erecting a *bund*, or embankment, in the middle of the hills at Ramgurh, situated at a distance of six or seven *kos* from the city of Jeypore. A sum of several lakhs of rupees

has been sanctioned by the Government for carrying out the project, and a portion of the estimated outlay, amounting to a few lakhs, has already been paid from the State treasury and placed at the disposal of the agency entrusted with the work. The erection has already commenced, and the maharajah personally inspected the spot lately, and issued proper directions. The place where the *bund* is to be erected extends over an area of several *kos*, and canals will be cut which will fertilize the lands far and near, and confer immense good on the people.

The *Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Panjab*, of the 30th May, advocates the claims of Rajah Soochet Singh to succession to the throne of Chumba, which has been resigned by Rajah Gopal Singh through ill-behaviour. In the discussions which were formerly conducted by the English, as well as the Native press, it was proved that the claims of Soochet Singh to succeed the late Rajah Sree Singh in the Chumba *raj* were preferable to those of Gopal Singh; but this view of the question was overruled by the authoritative decision of Government, and the editor, therefore, thinks it useless to revert to it, but simply shows here how of the two persons who are now claimants for the throne, *viz.*, Soochet Singh and the infant son of Gopal Singh, the former has a prior claim to it. He is decidedly in favour of Soochet Singh. The arguments brought forward may be summed up briefly as follows :—

Firstly.—The *sunnud* of 1848 empowers the Government to elect the ablest of the two or more heirs to succeed to a State.

Secondly.—Soochet Singh is the ablest of the existing heirs, the public and the forces, no less than the authorities having, with one voice, acknowledged his ability and fitness to govern.

Thirdly.—The subjects of Chumba have a deep love and affection towards Soochet Singh, and prefer him for their ruler. It is well known to all how, on Gopal Singh being placed on the throne, a large number of them had undertaken

a journey to Umritsur and Lahore to prefer his suit before Government ; how they had unanimously submitted a petition to Government representing that they preferred to have Soochet Singh for their ruler ; and how, on the occasion of Lord Mayo's visit to Kangra, they had blocked up his passage and eagerly implored him to instal Soochet Singh on the *musnud*.

All these facts prove beyond doubt that the claims of Rajah Soochet Singh to the right of succession to the Chumba *raj* are by all means preferable to those of Gopal Singh's son, and the editor, therefore, strongly recommends that in pursuance of the power vested in it by the *sunnud* of 1848, the Government of India should place him on the throne of Chumba.

The attention of Government is invited to this.

The *Málwah Akhbár*, of the same date, notices the breaking out of a fire at Indore recently, which burnt 55 houses, causing a loss of upwards of Rs. 2,500. The maharajah is praised for having rendered prompt assistance to the sufferers.

The *Punjab-i-Akhbár*, of the 31st May, states, on the authority of a correspondent, that under the arrangements going on at Jodhpore under the orders of the new maharajah 90 villages have been confiscated, while 360 more will suffer the same fate. Moreover, orders have been issued for the resumption of one-fourth of all the jagheers in Marwar. Various rumours are afloat in the city as to the probable consequences of these orders. According to some, they are sure to cause a disturbance.

It is added that proposals for setting apart jagheers for the members of the royal family are in contemplation, a jagheer yielding an annual income of Rs. 29,000 having already been settled on Maharajahs Pratap Singh and Kishore Singh.

A correspondent of the *Rohilkhund Akhbár*, of the 4th June, writing from Nowgong (Central India), observes that

mail robbery has now become very common. Formerly cases of this kind frequently happened on the Agra and Gwalior road, but they now occur everywhere. The writer particularly refers to the plundering in the third week of May last of the dâk which was coming from Jhansie to Nowgong. The robbers inflicted three wounds with a sword on the postman, who is under treatment in the hospital.

The correspondent remarks that the place where the incident happened is situated in the territory of the Rajah of Tehree, which is inhabited by a tribe of Sanoudhee Brahmins, who are professional robbers. They make plundering excursions as far as Bombay and Madras, and return home, sometimes after several years, laden with spoils. All this time the mahajuns of the State support their families, getting in return an ample share of the booty.

The writer adds that it was these men who were the cause of the robberies which were formerly so frequent in the districts of Jubbulpore and Nagpore, and that since steps have been taken by Government for checking the crime, hundreds of the robbers have been arrested and brought to punishment, while a large number still remain at large.

In his opinion, if proper steps be taken by the Tehree Government, and inquiries made as to the sources of livelihood of the *budmashes*, their numbers would soon diminish.

The *Oudh Akhbâr*, of the 6th June, learns from a correspondent that a serious disturbance recently took place in Bhopal. Full details are not known beyond the fact that at a time when elegiac chants (*maukîd*) were being sung in honour of the prophet, violent hands were laid on Moulvie Siddiq Husun, the begum's husband, and two or three persons were killed. In consequence of this the Agent to the Governor-General lately went to Bhopal in person. According to some, the begum's marriage with a person of Siddiq Husun's rank (who, not being royally descended, was by no means a suitable match for her) is the cause of the disturbance and bloodshed.

C O M M E R C I A L.

The *Roznámcha*, of the 4th June, notices the disorder which prevailed at the Lucknow railway station on the 22nd May. Through the neglect of the railway *employés*, a few of the passengers who were bound for Fyzabad took their seats in the Shahjehanpore train, and it was not till the train had gone some way that the mistake was discovered.

The editor remarks that, until a second station is built, a man should be posted at the stations who should repeatedly call aloud before passengers take their seats in a train, and until it leaves the station, that the train is bound for such a place ; or the tickets for another train should not be distributed until one has left the station.

E D U C A T I O N A L.

The *Koh-i-Núr*, of the 24th May, criticises the working of the committee appointed by the Punjab Government for reviewing the books taught in the Educational Department in that province, with a view to express its opinion as to which of them were suitable and which unsuitable for being retained in the scheme of studies, and suggests what books might with advantage be substituted for those which may be judged worthy of being superseded. The drift of the criticism may be given as follows :—

Firstly.—It does not appear why the proposals of the committee should have been kept secret, and submitted to the Government for approval without an opportunity being given to the public to pass an opinion on them. The names of the books selected, together with the reasons for the selection, ought to have been published before being submitted to Government for approval, in order to elicit popular opinion on them. The editor thinks that this should be done by Government before according sanction to the committee's proposals.

Secondly.—With the exception of the members entrusted with the examination of English books, all the rest cannot be pronounced to be competent for the work allotted to them,

the results of which cannot but be unsatisfactory, even though some of the examiners, feeling the duty entrusted to them to be beyond their abilities, may have called in the aid of other men for performing it. It will be observed, for instance, that the gentleman entrusted with the examination of Oordoo books and books in mathematics, though a B. A., is neither a distinguished mathematician nor an adept in Oordoo. To entrust the examination of books on *two* subjects to such a man is all the more surprising.

Similarly, neither of the two gentlemen nominated for the revision of Persian books are masters of that language, and what is worse, one of them is a European, who, as a rule, cannot be expected even to possess as good a knowledge of the vernacular as common persons among the Natives.

So, also, neither of the members elected for the review of books in Arabic and Sanskrit is a proficient in those languages. The same remarks apply to the European gentleman entrusted with the examination of historical and geographical books, who, though somewhat distinguished for his knowledge of history and geography, cannot be said to be well acquainted with Oordoo.

Thirdly.—Instead of appointing several men for examining books on each subject, in many cases a single individual was nominated for reviewing books on more than one subject.

Fourthly.—The points noticed by the Lieutenant-Governor in the *Report on Populur Education in the Punjab for 1871-72*, in speaking of the text-books in use in the Punjab Educational Department, have not been fully attended to by the members of the committee.

On the above considerations, the editor is of opinion that before entertaining the proposals submitted by the committee, Government should fully weigh the *pros* and *cons*, and publish them *in extenso* both in the English and Oordoo Government Gazettes, in order to afford the public an opportunity of correcting defects and suggesting reforms and improvements.

The same paper, in continuation of its notice of the irregularities connected with the recent annual examination at the Punjab University, mentions the following complaint:—

In the notice issued by the University it was expressly laid down that the result of the examination would be published for general information on the 19th May, which promise was not fulfilled.

The editor contrasts this anomaly with the regularity and punctuality which marks all the arrangements of the Calcutta University, where the results of examinations are infallibly published on the prescribed date.

It is added that the pay and stipends of the teachers and pupils belonging to the university are distributed very irregularly, which subjects them to great inconvenience and loss, especially on account of the generality of them being foreigners, while the Registrar's *umlah* get their pay regularly every month.

The *Majma-ul-Bahrain*, of the 1st June, points out the need of establishing an English school at Jugraon. So much has the taste for learning grown up among the inhabitants of the town, and to so great an extent have the benefits of education begun to be appreciated by them, that the *tehseelee* and *hulqabundee* schools now existing in the town are considered by them to be scarcely sufficient for their wants, and a school for imparting education in English is felt to be a great desideratum. An idea of the progress which education has made in the town during past years may be formed from the fact that, while eight or nine years ago the attendance at the *tehseelee* school was only 30 or 40, it now numbers 150.

The editor hopes the attention of the Punjab Government and the Deputy Commissioner of Loodhiana will be invited to the above, and remarks that the cost of maintenance of the proposed school might be met from the local cesses collected from the *zemindars* and from municipal funds.

The *Allygurh Institute Gazette*, of the 6th June, in a communicated article, condemns the system under which the teachers of aided Anglo-Vernacular Schools in the North-Western Provinces are not paid regularly every month. The writer begins by saying that the editor of the *Hindoo Patriot* in a late issue of that paper seriously protested against the circular, as most oppressive to the teachers, issued under the orders of the Bengal Government by the Deputy Inspectors of Schools to the secretaries of aided schools, directing them to submit their bills for their countersignature every second month instead of every month, as was hitherto done ; and remarks that the *Patriot* will be surprised to learn that a worse evil exists in the North-Western Provinces with regard to the payment of the aided-school teachers, who are under the direct control and supervision of the Government Educational officers. Suffice it to say that they sometimes remain unpaid for six months together, and that they are quite uncertain when to look for payment. Their pay-bills pass through the hands of half a dozen officers for countersignature,—a tedious process which is seldom at an end before the expiration of three months or so. It may be imagined how discouraging this unnecessary delay must be felt by the teachers, and how much it is apt to detract from the zeal and willingness of servants in the discharge of their duties who are not allowed the remuneration of their labour until after months of misery, wretchedness, and want.

The writer fails to see why the salary-bills of aided-school teachers should not be paid simply under the signature of the Deputy Inspectors as is the case in Bengal, who are directly responsible for the accounts and management of the schools under their control. He adds that the pay-bills of the hulgabundee and tehseelee school teachers are already cashed under the signature of Deputy Inspectors, and sees no reason why a similar system should not be pursued in case of the pay-bills of the teachers of aided schools, especially when it will remove so much mismanagement and heart-burning.

He concludes by saying that until the idle, useless, and tedious system of signatures and countersignatures of a number of officers is done away with, punctuality in payment can never be perfectly secured, and by inviting the attention of the Director of Public Instruction and the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West to the matter.



The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report:—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
1	<i>Maqūd-ul-Akbbār,</i>	Oordoo,	Gurgaon,	Weekly,	May, 17th	1873. 28th
2	<i>Mārwar Gazette,</i>	Oordoo and Hindee,	Jodhpore,	Tri-monthly,	" 19th	28th
3	<i>Saiyad-ul-Akbbār,</i>	Oordoo,	Delhi,	Weekly,	" 20th	30th
4	<i>Majmā-ul-Bahrain,</i>	Ditto,	Ludhiana,	Ditto,	" 22nd	27th
5	<i>Vidyā Vilās,</i>	Oordoo and Dogrit,	Jummoo,	Ditto,	" 22nd	29th
6	<i>Naiyir-i-Akbar,</i>	Oordoo,	Bijnour,	Ditto,	" 22nd	9th
7	<i>Lauh-i-Mahfūz,</i>	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Ditto,	" 23rd	27th
8	<i>Rajputāna Social Science Congress Gazette.</i>	Ditto,	Jeypore,	Ditto,	" 23rd	27th
9	<i>Mālwah Akbbār,</i>	Marathee,	Indore,	Ditto,	" 23rd	31st
10	<i>Akbbār-i-Anjuman-i-Panjāb,</i>	Oordoo,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 23rd	2nd
11	<i>Koh-i-Nūr,</i>	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
12	<i>Panjābi Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
13	<i>Akbbār-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,</i>	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
14	<i>Jalwā-i-Tūr,</i>	Ditto,	Meerut,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
15	<i>Khair Khwāh-i-Panjāb,</i>	Ditto,	Gojranwalla,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
16	<i>Urdū Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Delhi,	Ditto,	" 24th	27th
17	<i>Rohilkhund Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Bi-weekly,	" 24th	29th
18	<i>Najm-ul-Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	" 24th	30th
19	<i>Khair Khwāh-i-Alam,</i>	Ditto,	Delhi,	Tri-monthly,	" 25th	27th
20	<i>Khair Khwāh-i-Oudh,</i>	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Weekly,	" 25th	28th
21	<i>Akmal-ul-Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Delhi,	Ditto,	" 25th	29th
22	<i>Gwalior Gazette,</i>	Oordoo and Hindee,	Gwalior,	Ditto,	" 25th	2nd
23	<i>Mayo Memorial Gazette,</i>	Oordoo,	Delhi,	Tri-monthly,	" 25th	9th
24	<i>Dabdaba-i-Sikandari,</i>	Ditto,	Rampore,	Weekly,	" 26th	29th
25	<i>Kārnāmah,</i>	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Ditto,	" 26th	29th
26	<i>Pattiala Akbbār,</i>	Ditto,	Pattiala,	Ditto,	" 26th	30th

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
27	Roznámcha,	Oordoo,	Lucknow,	Daily,	May,	30th
28	Sādiq-ul-Akhhār,	Ditto,	Bhawulpore,	Weekly,	June,	2nd
29	Mārwar Gazette,	Oordoo and Hindee,	Jodhpore,	Ditto,	"	4th
30	Qudh Akhhār,	Oordoo,	Lucknow,	Bi-weekly,	May,	28th
31	Nasim-i-Jounpore,	Ditto,	Jounpore,	Weekly,	"	29th
32	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	"	30th
33	Akhyār-ul-Akhhār,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Weekly,	"	31st
34	Naf-ul-Azim,	Arabic,	Lahore,	Ditto,	"	31st
35	Rifāh-i-Am,	Oordoo,	Sealkota,	Ditto,	"	2nd
36	Strackey Gazette,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Ditto,	June,	3rd
37	Mailā-i-Nūr,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto,	"	7th
38	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Ditto,	"	30th
39	Akhhār-i-Am,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Ditto,	May,	31st
40	Muir Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Ditto,	"	31st
41	Rohilkhand Akhhār,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Bi-weekly,	June,	9th
42	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	May,	30th
43	Benares Akhhār,	Hindee,	Benares,	Weekly,	"	2nd
44	Akhhār-i-Alam,	Oordoo,	Meerut,	Ditto,	"	2nd
45	Vidyā Vilās,	Oordoo and Dogrit,	Jummoo,	Ditto,	"	6th
46	Allypore Institute Gazette,	Oordoo and English,	Allypore,	Ditto,	May,	31st
47	Qudh Akhhār,	Oordoo,	Lucknow,	Bi-weekly,	"	31st
48	Shams-ul-Akhhār,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Bi-monthly,	June,	2nd
49	Lawrence Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	"	2nd
50	Rajpūtana Social Science Congress Gazette.	Ditto,	Jeypore,	Ditto,	"	3rd
51	Akhhār-i-Anjuman-i-Punjab,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Ditto,	"	3rd
52	Mālwhā Akhhār,	Marathee,	Indour,	Ditto,	"	5th
53	Lauh-i-Mahfūz,	Oordoo,	Moradabad,	Ditto,	"	5th
54	Agra Akhhār,	Ditto,	Agra,	Tri-monthly,	"	6th
55	Meerut Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	"	2nd
56	Shola-i-Tār,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto,	"	2nd

57	Urdu Delhi Gazette,	...	Ditto,	...	Agra,	...	Ditto,	...	31st	2nd
58	Koh-i-Núr,	...	Ditto,	...	Lahore,	...	Ditto,	...	31st	3rd
59	Panjábi Akhbár,	...	Oordoo,	...	Lahore,	...	Weekly,	...	31st	3rd
60	Akhabár-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	31st	3rd
61	Rohilkhund Akhbár,	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad,	...	Bi-weekly,	...	31st	4th
62	Núr-ul-Absár,	...	Ditto,	...	Allahabad,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	1st	2nd
63	Ab-i-Hayat-i-Hind,	...	Oordoo and Hindee,	...	Agra,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	3rd
64	Samaya Vinod,	...	Ditto,	...	Nynce Tal,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	4th
65	Khair Khwah-i-Panjáb,	...	Oordoo,	...	Gojranwalla,	...	Weekly,	...	1st	4th
66	Khair Khwah-i-Oudh,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	4th
67	Jalwa-i-Túr,	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	4th
68	Mangal Samáchar,	...	Oordoo and Hindee,	...	Baiswan,	...	Monthly,	...	1st	5th
69	Almorah Akhbár,	...	Ditto,	...	Almorah,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	1st	5th
70	Gwalior Gazette,	...	Ditto,	...	Gwalior,	...	Weekly,	...	1st	5th
71	Saiyad-ul-Akhabár,	...	Oordoo,	...	Delhi,	...	Tri-monthly,	...	1st	5th
72	Akmal-ul-Akhabár,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Weekly,	...	1st	5th
73	Najm-ul-Akhabár,	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	5th
74	Majma-ul-Bahruin,	...	Ditto,	...	Ludhiana,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	5th
75	Musid-i-Am,	...	Ditto,	...	Agra,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	1st	6th
76	Khursid-i-Jahántáb,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	6th
77	Amir-ul-Akhabár,	...	Ditto,	...	Loharoo,	...	Ditto,	...	1st	7th
78	Jabbaipúr News,	...	English and Hindee,	...	Hoshangábád,	...	Monthly,	...	2nd	4th
79	Dabdaba-i-Sikandari,	...	Oordoo,	...	Rampore,	...	Weekly,	...	2nd	5th
80	Kárnámah,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	2nd	5th
81	Patiala Akhbár,	...	Ditto,	...	Pattiala,	...	Ditto,	...	2nd	6th
82	Sádiq-ul-Akhabár,	...	Ditto,	...	Bhawulpore,	...	Ditto,	...	2nd	9th
83	Oudh Akhbár,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Bi-weekly,	...	3rd	4th
84	Nasim-i-Jaunpore,	...	Ditto,	...	Jounpore,	...	Weekly,	...	3rd	5th
85	Akhyár-ul-Akhabár,	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	3rd	6th
86	Maḡla-i-Núr,	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore,	...	Ditto,	...	3rd	7th
87	Naf'-ul-Azím,	...	Arabic,	...	Lahore,	...	Ditto,	...	3rd	7th
88	Strachey Gazette,	...	Oordoo,	...	Moradabad,	...	Ditto,	...	3rd	9th
89	Akhabár-i-Am,	...	Ditto,	...	Lahore,	...	Ditto,	...	4th	7th
90	Muir Gazette,	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Ditto,	...	4th	7th

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
91	Rohilkhund Akhbār,	Oordoo,	Moradabad,	Bi-weekly,	June,	9th
92	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	"	9th
93	Khair Khwah-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Delhi,	Tri-Monthly,	"	7th
94	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	"	9th
95	Risāh-i-Am,	Ditto,	Sealkote,	Weekly,	"	9th
96	Benares Akhbār,	Hindee,	Benares,	Ditto,	"	9th
97	Akbār-i-Alam,	Oordoo,	Meerut,	Ditto,	"	9th
98	Allygurh Institute Gazette,	Oordoo and English,	Allygurh,	Ditto,	"	7th
99	Oudh Akhbār,	Oordoo,	Lucknow,	Bi-weekly,	"	7th
100	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Daily,	"	9th
101	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	9th
102	Meerut Gazette,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	"	9th
103	Maqsūd-ul-Akbār,	Ditto,	Gurgaon,	"	"	9th
104	Urdu Delhi Gazette,	Ditto,	Agra,	Weekly,	"	9th
105	Nār-ul-Anwār,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto,	"	9th
106	Shola-i-Tūr,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	"	9th

ALLAHABAD :
The 10th July, 1873. }

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of Upper India.